

REMARKS

Claims 35-36 are pending in this application. Claim 35 stands withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claim 37 is canceled. No new matter is added.

The Office Action rejects claim 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, because "[t]here is no support in the specification as originally filed for claim 37" (see section #3 on page 2 of the Office Action). Applicants have canceled claims 37 rendering this rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claim 37 are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 36 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Forssmann et al. (EP 0349545) as evidenced by Nutt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,057,603). This rejection is traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Forssmann et al. intermediate would not necessarily ever contain only the first "Cys(Acm)." In this regard, Applicants note that the Nutt et al. patent specifically teaches that Acm are "removed by the action of I2 with concomitant cyclization" (Nutt et al. col. 8, lines 63-64). Applicants also note that the term concomitant means "occurring concurrently." Thus, Nutt et al. appears to suggest that, since cyclization occurs at the same time, the two Forssmann et al. Acm groups would be removed at the same time.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone

number listed below to schedule a personal or telephone interview to discuss any remaining issues.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, making reference to Attorney Docket No. 108099-00001.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert K. Carpenter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

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